



**Baltimore County, Maryland
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
December 13, 2016
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
Room 118, Historic Court House
400 Washington Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204**

MINUTES

Attendees

Kim Barranco, Baltimore City CJCC
Judge Sherrie Bailey, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Dr. Gregory Branch, Baltimore County Department of Health & Human Services
Captain Joe Conger, Baltimore County Police Department
Theresa Cunningham, Baltimore County Department of Social Services
Dr. Kimberly Cuthrell, Bureau of Behavioral Health
Michael Esposito, District Court for Baltimore County
John Fee, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Sheriff Jay Fisher, Baltimore County Sheriff's Department
Rachel Geise, Baltimore County Office of Information Technology
Jon Hackbarth, Catholic Charities Family Services Division
Chief James W. Johnson, Baltimore County Police Department
Mary Leslie, Baltimore County Local Management Board
Donna Morrison, Baltimore County Administrative Office
Richard Muth, Baltimore County Public Schools
Walter Nolley, Dept. of Public Safety & Correctional Services-Community Supervision
Deborah Richardson, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Scott Shellenberger, Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office
Timothy Sheridan, Circuit Court for Baltimore County
Tanya Smith, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Rob Stradling, Baltimore County Office of Information Technology
Sharon Tyler, Baltimore County Department of Corrections
Donald Zarembo, District Public Defender

Welcome/ Approval of Minutes

Donna Morrison welcomed everyone to the December meeting of the Baltimore County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Minutes of the October 11, 2016 meeting were presented, and a motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt the minutes as presented.

Committee Reports & Updates

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council: Ms. Cunningham shared highlights from the DVCC Winter 2016 newsletter which was disseminated electronically prior to the meeting.

Offender Employment Network: Ms. Tyler distributed minutes of the December 8, 2016 meeting.

Local Management Board: Ms. Morrison introduced Mary Leslie of the Local Management Board who presented Mr. Jon Hackbarth, Director of Centralized Services, Family Navigation Program, Catholic Charities Family Services Division. Mr. Hackbarth provided an overview of the Family Navigator Services program which is available for Baltimore County families, kinship caregivers and guardians of children who are impacted by incarceration of parents, homelessness, youth refusing to attend school or secure employment, and children and adolescents with behavioral, emotional and/or developmental disabilities. Additional information regarding this program was also sent electronically to all meeting attendees.

Ms. Leslie also shared information on the Healthy Families Program which works with pregnant women and children. They also work with pregnant women who are incarcerated and follow them into the community upon release. They are also looking to work with males who are incarcerated who have a pregnant partner in the community.

Forensic Mental Health Workgroup: Minutes of the November 15, 2016 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting.

Juvenile Update: Judge Bailey reported that they consistently receive referrals and have had several new admissions for the Juvenile Drug Court.

Other Business/Updates:

Chief Johnson discussed several issues, including significant changes in Federal guidelines regarding gun sales nationwide; suggesting that there may be ways to improve the way in which the District Court reports information to the NICS program. He also addressed the national discussion on second degree rapes, particularly the length of time rape kits are held. Additionally, in light of recent developments, Baltimore County now requires a face-to-face interview between the victim and a sex crimes detective – a change from previous practice where the street officer would contact a detective via telephone. The department has also increased documentation of client cooperation, particularly in cases where a victim decides they no longer wish to participate in the investigation. There will be no statute of limitation in these cases and the department will hold all safe exams indefinitely. The department will also enhance human resources in this unit.

Donna Morrison shared that the County Executive has solicited the services of the Council of State Government (CSG) to conduct an independent review of Police training procedures in areas of behavioral health response, cultural competency training, and de-escalation strategies. The County has also requested the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) and Judge Barbara Howe conduct an independent review of the County's response to sexual assault allegations and make recommendations for further changes in our procedures. It is hoped that these organizations will provide feedback by early Spring 2017.

Scott Shellenberger reported that there will likely be legislation in Annapolis to address how long rape kits are to be held and there is a move to require all kits to be tested. This could substantially impact jurisdictions financially and affect prioritization of DNA testing.

Chief Johnson reported that there have been significant advances in the past three years regarding fingerprint analysis. The department has submitted numerous cases for re-examination, some are cold cases that are up to 35 years old.

Chief Johnson also reported that there are pending changes in the way we count crime. Today we use UCR (Uniform Crime Reporting). Over the next four years, Maryland is moving from UCR to NIBRS, a new system that captures all offenses involved in a case and will allow enhanced comparisons.

Deb Richardson reported that as of today, the detention center population was at 1,105. Juveniles remain steady, with 23 currently inside the facility. They continue with mental health initiatives at the detention center. Ms. Smith advised that interviews are underway for a Peer Recovery Specialist at the Detention Center.

Judge Cox reported that they have added two additional judges in the Circuit Court. This is the first time in 20 years that they are at full complement. John Fee, Esq., was introduced as the new Criminal Case Manager for the Circuit Court.

Kim Barranco reported that Baltimore City is initiating a FTA Warrant Second Chance program which will run from 1/9/17-1/31/17.

Chief Johnson introduced Captain Joe Conger who is the manager of the Police Department's Body Worn Camera Program. Captain Conger provided an overview of the program and how it works. At this time, there are 150 units in the field and it appears that the workforce has embraced this new tool which will definitely change how we police. The department is carving out the policies associated with this new technology. Chief Johnson thanked Rob Stradling, OIT, and his staff, for all their work on getting this project up and running.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting date is February 14, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Street, CAP
Baltimore County Police Department